

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

24 May 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, NIC
Vice Chairman, NIC

FROM: Maurice C. Ernst
NIO/ECON

SUBJECT: Estimate on International Debt Problems

In view of the DCI's charge to expand the scope and range of topics to be covered in Intelligence Community products (especially NIEs), I believe we should consider an NIE on international financial and debt problems, which would examine the financial and debt problems of LDCs, especially in Latin America, and in the Soviet Bloc and assess their implications for the health of the world economy, the stability of the international banking system, and the economic prospects of the LDCs themselves. The purpose of the estimate would be to make policymakers more aware of the potential economic problems affecting US interests both on a global basis and in potential politically unstable areas of the world. For the Interagency process to be successful, active participation of those components of State, Treasury, and Commerce most knowledgeable on international financial issues would be needed. There would have to be considerable consultation with outside private sector experts. The Estimate could probably be completed by mid or late August.

Maurice C. Ernst

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